

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 4 and 6 have been amended. Claims 1-7 are pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Masao (Japanese Patent No. 2001-006252). This rejection is traversed.

Masao discloses a disk device having a motor 73 with a shaft 81, a worm gear 82 installed on the shaft, and a driving gear 74 geared directly to both the worm gear and the gear on the inside periphery of a rotating tray 43. Masao, Figure 7.

Amended claims 1, 4 and 6 recite: "...wherein the gear provided on the roulette is provided on a bottom surface of the roulette." Support for this amendment may be found in paragraph [0014] of the specification. In contrast to claims 1, 4 and 6, Masao discloses gear on the inside periphery of the rotating tray. Claims 1, 4 and 6 recite a gear provided on the bottom of the roulette.

Claims 2, 3, 5 and 7 are dependent on either claims 1, 4 or 6 and are therefore believed to be allowable for the reasons discussed above.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejection is requested.

CONCLUSION

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

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By: 
Gene M. Garner II
Registration No. 34,172

1201 New York Ave, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501